

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8842

UNCLAS BAMAKO 1015

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ML, PGOU, PINT

SUBJECT: MALIANS WILL VOTE FOR NEW CONSTITUTION JUNE 2, 1974

REF: BAMAKO 3018

1. PRESIDENT MOUSSA TRAORE MADE NATIONAL RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT APRIL 23, 1974 THAT REFERENDUM ON NEW CONSTITUTION WILL TAKE PLACE JUNE 2, 1974. HE APPEALED TO NATIONAL CONSCIENCE BY CALLING ON ALL MALIANS, WHATEVER MAY BE THEIR SOCIAL ORIGIN, THEIR BELIEF OR REGION TO ASSERT THEIR INTEREST IN DETERMINING THE NATION'S DECISION.

2. COMPARING THE NEW CONSTITUTION WITH THE INADEQUACIES OF THE OLD ONE CREATED IN 1960, HE STATED THAT THE NEW CONSTITUTION REPRESENTS A TRUE DEMOCRACY. IT CALLS FOR A GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE AND FOR THE PEOPLE. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO PRESIDENT TRAORE, THE CONSTITUTION EXCLUDES PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVT BY THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE PROVED THEIR INCOMPETENCY TO MANAGE PUBLIC AFFAIRS. COMMENT: THIS IS A CLEAR WARNING TO ALL PRE-COUP LEADERS WHO MAY STILL HAVE POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS.

3. THERE WILL BE ONE PARTY WHICH WILL REPRESENT ALL POINTS OF VIEW.

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4. AT END OF SPEECH, HE TOLD ALL MALIANS THAT IN VOTING

"YES" IN THE REFERENDUM THEY WOULD BE VOTING "YES" FOR:

A) DEMOCRACY, I.E., SUPREME AUTHORITY OF THE PEOPLE;

B) THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT AND CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT,
FOR A 5 YEAR TERM OR A MAXIMUM OF TWO 5 YEAR TERMS;

C) A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WITH MEMBERS ELECTED FOR 4 YEAR TERM;

D) A POLICY OF PEACE, ENTENTE AND FOREIGN COOPERATION,
A GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY AND FOR AFRICAN UNITY.

5. HE ENDED BY CONCLUDING THAT A POSITIVE VOTE FOR THE
CONSTITUTION WILL DEMONSTRATE CONFIDENCE IN THE MILITARY
COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION.

6. COMMENT: ALL MEMBERS OF THE CMNL EXCEPT THE PRESIDENT HAVE
BEEN SENT TO THE VARIOUS REGIONS OF MALI FOR THE NEXT TWO TO
THREE WEEKS TO DRUM UP SUPPORT FOR THE CONSTITUTION.
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Message Attributes

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